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RESOLUTION OF THE HUNGARIAN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ON THE PROTECTION OF MOTHERS AND INFANTS

The Hungarian Council of Ministers has issued the following resolution on the protection of mothers and infants:

I. PREGNANCY AND MATERNITY BENEFITS

Medical Care

All pregnant women are entitled to at least three medical examinations free of charge. The examinations are to begin in the third month and continue until the eighth month of pregnancy. In addition, visiting nurses shall attend expectant mothers during the entire period of pregnancy. Free layette and maternity aid, as specified in the present resolution, shall be granted only to mothers who can prove by their pregnancy books (terhesgondozasi konyv) that they have received medical examinations.

Work Benefits

All ministries are required to publish, within 30 days, the occupations which are harmful to the health of women and in which women may not be employed. Such occupations may not be filled by new women workers after 1 March 1953, and all women now employed in these occupations must be transferred to other jobs by 31 July 1953.

Women cannot be barred from employment because of pregnancy. Pregnant women, as well as nursing mothers during the first 3 months of nursing, may be dismissed from employment only by disciplinary proceedings or at their own request. Except in special cases, the employment of pregnant domestics cannot be terminated prior to delivery.

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In conformity with Paragraph 95 of the Labor Code, pregnant women after the sixth month of pregnancy and nursing mothers until the sixth month of nursing may not be employed for heavy physical labor, night work, or overtime.

In conformity with Paragraph 97 of the Labor Code, all women are entitled to a total of 12 weeks' paid leave prior to and after delivery. The length of paid leave may be extended by 4 weeks on the basis of a medical certificate. Mothers are allowed three quarters of an hour twice a day during the first 6 months and once a day during the next 2 months after delivery, for nursing purposes. If this arrangement proves impracticable, the nursing mother is entitled to a 3-month nursing leave without pay.

In case a mother is compelled to stay at home to care for a sick child under one year of age, she is entitled to sick benefit payments, provided that no other member of the family can care for the child. If the child is over one year but under 6 years of age, the working mother is entitled to leave without pay. However, the total length of leave granted for this purpose may not exceed 30 days per year.

Free Layette

As of 1 March 1953, the state will provide every newborn infant with a layette of a total value of 400 forints, free of charge, whether or not the mother is covered by social insurance, provided that she had at least three medical examinations during her pregnancy. The various items of the layette may be selected by the mother from a list to be published by the Ministry of Domestic Commerce, and the layette will become the property of the mother.

Social Insurance Benefits

If one of the parents is covered by social insurance, the cost of delivery at an institution (hospital, clinic, sanatorium, etc.) is borne by the social insurance agencies. Institutions charge parents not covered by social insurance only half of the regular fee. The fee at delivery homes (szulootthonok) is 10 forints per day.

All working women who are covered by social insurance are also entitled to pregnancy and childbed aid in the amount of 12 weeks' pay. As of 1 March 1953, the maternity aid for working mothers will be raised from the present 500 forints to 600 forints and for the first child to 700 forints. Working women covered by agricultural social insurance, who are receiving maternity aid in a lump sum instead of the pregnancy and childbed aid, will be entitled, as of 1 March 1953, to a maternity aid of 1,400 forints instead of the present 1,330 forints, and to 1,500 forints for the first child.

Awards, Housing Benefits

Every mother who has borne and brought up six or more children is awarded the Anyasagi Erdemrend (Medal of Merit for Maternity). Mothers of seven or more living children will, in addition, receive a monetary award.

To promote the establishment of families, 20 percent of the newly built or vacant homes are to be assigned to young married couples, provided they are worthy of this benefit.

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II. FAMILY ALLOWANCE

The system of family allowance payments will be changed as of 1 March 1953 as follows:

Increase in Family Allowance for Three or More Children

Number of Children	Forints p	er Month
,	From	To
3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	135 210 300 405	180 260 350 450 560 680 810 975 1,155 1,350
For each additional child		210

The allowance for two children remains unchanged at 75 forints per month. The allowance for one child is discontinued except in the case of unwed mothers, who are entitled to a monthly allowance of 30 forints.

No family allowance will be paid for wives.

Workers are entitled to the family allowance until the child reaches its 16th year. In the case of school children and industrial apprentices the family allowance is payable until the child completes its 18th year. No family allowance will be paid for a school child who receives a scholarship or for an industrial apprentice who lives in an institution for apprentices.

As of 1 March 1953, the right to family allowance will be extended to include those members of producers' cooperatives who have three or more children under the age of 10 years, provided that the parents earned 120 work units in the preceding year. In case a mother is entitled to family allowance in her own right as a member of a producers' cooperative, completion of 80 work units is sufficient.

As of 1 March 1953, herdsmen permanently employed by town or city pasture committees are also entitled to family allowance for three or more children under 10 years of age. The monthly family allowance payable to members of producers cooperatives and herdsmen for children under 10 years of age is as follows:

Number of Children	Family Allowance per Month (in forints)
3 4 5 6	144 208 280 360
For each additional child	 60

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The family allowance will be paid by the SZTK (Szakszervezeti Tar sadalombiztositasi Kozpont, Trade Union Social Insurance Center).

III. HEALTH PROTECTION OF MOTHERS AND CHILDREN

Maternity Institutions

The ratio of institutional deliveries to total deliveries is to be raised, by an increase in the number of beds and better utilization of delivery homes, from the current 42 percent to 54 percent by the end of 1953 and to at least 60 percent by the end of 1954. Provision is to be made by the Minister of Health to assure that, by the end of 1957, all deliveries will take place in maternity institutions.

Infan, and Child Care

The following regulations are designed to provide better care for ailing children and infants:

- 1. The number of beds in children's hospitals is to be increased by 20 percent by the end of 1954.
- 2. In addition to the present vaccination against smallpox and diphtheria, compulsory vaccination is to be extended in 1953 to include vaccination against whooping cough. Vaccination against typhoid fever is to be introduced in some parts of the country durin 753 and throughout the country by the end of 1954.
- The capacity of day nurseries for infants is to be doubled in 1953. Mobile day nurseries are to be established for the infants of mothers employed in the building industry. The service is to be improved by the assignment of one nurse to each ten children. The working time of nurses is to be reduced to 8 hours per day, where possible; however, the day nurseries are to be kept open for 13-16 hours daily.
- 4. The capacity of day nurseries for older children is to be increased from 80,000 in 1952 to 119.000 in 1953.

New day nursery capacity is to be established primarily in new industrial areas. In rural communities, day nurseries are to be established primarily on a seasonal basis for a period of 1-5 months per year. These seasonal day nurseries will be primarily in the areas of state farms, machine stations, and producers' cooperatives.

Visiting Nurse, Midwife Services

The visiting nurse service is to be expanded to provide one visiting nurse per 5,500 inhabitants by the end of 1954. As of 1 March 1953, the pay of visiting nurses is to be increased from the present 750 forints to 810 forints per month.

Midwives will be included in the pregnancy service. As a result, their pay will be raised by 50 percent as of 1 March 1953.

Care of Unwed Mothers

The local councils, in cooperation with the social organizations, should facilitate marriage between unwed parents. The Council of Ministers is preparing regulations on alimony, the support of unwed pregnant women, and increased legal protection of unwed mothers and their children.

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In the future, alimony is to be equal to 20 percent of the average earnings of the father. A smaller alimony can be adjudged by a court only in case the father has at least two other children to support.

Pregnancy homes accommodating 70 patients each at Budapest and 100 each at Sztalinvaros and Miskolc will be opened by the end of 1954. These homes will accommodate unwed working women during the last month of their pregnancy and for 8 weeks after delivery.

IV. TAX ON CHILDLESS PERSONS

After 1 March 1953, all childless persons, men between 20 and 50 years and women between 20 and 45 years of age, will be subject to a tax of 4 percent on their earnings. Exempted from the tax are: parents whose child died after completing its 20th year, members of the armed forces and the AVH (Allanvedelmi Hatosag, State Security Authority) and their wives, disabled veterans, and students between the ages of 20 and 24 years.

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